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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTOR(S) : Nino Silvestro  
TITLE : **LOCKING DEVICE FOR LATCH ASSEMBLY**  
APPLICATION NO. : 10/621,087  
FILED : July 16, 2003  
CONFIRMATION NO. : 9266  
EXAMINER : Unknown  
ART UNIT : 3742  
LAST OFFICE ACTION : n/a  
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Cleveland, OH 44114

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.